

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 USUN N 01985 01 OF 02 170238Z
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00
ICAE-00 INRE-00 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-11
ACDA-12 OMB-01 TRSE-00 HA-05 MCT-01 /124 W
-----121387 170321Z /70

O 170236Z MAY 78
FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1399
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY GABORONE IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 USUN NEW YORK 01985

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

LONDON PLEASE PASS AMB YOUNG

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PORG, SF, WA
SUBJECT: NAMIBIA: FRENCH REPORT FROM LUANDA ON CONVERSA-
TION WITH NUJOMA

1. FRENCH MISSION HAS PROVIDED US WITH TEXT OF REPORTING
CABLE FROM THEIR REPRESENTATIVE IN LUANDA ON A CONVERSA-
TION WHICH HE HAD MAY 15 WITH SAM NUJOMA. UNOFFICIAL
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PAGE 02 USUN N 01985 01 OF 02 170238Z

USUN TRANSLATION FOLLOWS: BEGIN TEXT:

I MET MR. SAM NUJOMA AT A RECEPTION YESTERDAY EVENING
(MAY 15). SCARCELY HAD WE LED INTO THE CONVERSATION WHEN
THE "NATIONAL CHAIRMAN" MERORO AND THE YUGOSLAV
AMBASSADOR SASIC JOINED IT.

NUJOMA EMOTIONAL, MERORO CUTTING, AND SASIC VIOLENT, THEY LAUNCHED AN ATTACK AT THE HEART OF THE WESTERN FIVE INITIATIVE.

- "THE DEATHS IN KASSINGA ARE YOUR RESPONSIBILITY; YOU ARMED THE ASSASSINS, YOU ARE CONTINUING TO TRADE WITH THEM AND ENSURE THE PROSPERITY OF THEIR ECONOMY." (SASIC).

- "IT IS A MATTER OF HONOR FOR SWAPO; ONE DOES NOT TALK WITH THE ENEMY." (SASIC).

- "THE EXAMPLE OF KASSINGA SHOULD PROVE TO YOU THAT YOU CANNOT PLACE YOUR CONFIDENCE IN THE SOUTH AFRICANS; IT IS NOT SO MUCH THE 1500 SOLDIERS THAT DISTURB US AS THE 30,000 POLICE AND CIVIL SERVANTS. A 5,000-MAN UN (FORCE) WILL NOT BE ENOUGH. AND BESIDES, YOUR DELEGATES HAVE REFUSED TO SET A NUMBER". (MERORO).

- "THE FIVE SURRENDERED TO BLACKMAIL AGAINST US IN PRESENTING A DEFINITIVE AND UNCHANGEABLE PROPOSAL. IT WAS TAKE IT OR LEAVE IT. SO THAT WE WOULD TAKE IT, THEY SHOWED US THE HORRORS WHICH WOULD RESULT IF WE LEFT IT." (NUJOMA).

- "THE FIVE LET US DOWN ON WALVIS BAY". (NUJOMA).
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PAGE 03 USUN N 01985 01 OF 02 170238Z

- "NONETHELESS, SINCE THE ZONE WAS RE-ANNEXED BY SOUTH AFRICA IN SEPTEMBER, THE PROBLEM WAS CREATED AND IT IS QUITE EVIDENT THAT NAMIBIA WILL NOT BE VIABLE WITHOUT THE PORT". (MERORO).

- "AND THE SOUTH AFRICAN FORCES IN WALVIS BAY?" (MERORO).

- "WHY DON'T YOU WANT TO MOVE THE RESIDUAL SOUTH AFRICAN CONTINGENT AWAY FROM THE ANGOLAN BORDER ANY LONGER? THAT IS SUSPECT." (MERORO).

- "THE ONLY POSITION FOR THE FIVE IS TO ABANDON THEIR PROPOSAL AND TAKE SANCTIONS AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA". (SASIC).

I WENT ON TO MY REFUTATION, POINT BY POINT:

(A) THAT AFTER 30 YEARS OF DISCUSSIONS WITHOUT RESULTS, THERE IS NOW A PROPOSAL WHICH -- EVEN THOUGH IT IS IMPERFECT IN THE EYES OF EACH OF THE PARTIES, AS IS THE CASE IN ANY COMPROMISE -- COULD LEAD TO THE GOAL OF INDEPENDENCE;

(B) THAT IT IS TIME TO REPLACE WORDS WITH ACTION. MY ARGUMENT, HOWEVER, FELL FLAT. WHEN I ADDED THAT A UN PRESENCE IN NAMIBIA WOULD HAVE BEEN ABLE TO PREVENT THE HARRASSMENTS OF RECENT WEEKS AGAINST INTERNAL SWAPO AND THE TAKEOFF OF PLANES FROM NAMIBIAN AIRPORTS, THEY SAW BLACKMAIL IN MY REMARK: "ACCEPT OUR PROPOSAL OR THE SOUTH AFRICANS WILL CONTINUE TO MASSACRE YOUR CHILDREN."

A DUTCH REPRESENTATIVE CAME TO MY RESCUE, SAYING "AFTER EMOTION, THERE IS ROOM FOR NEGOTIATIONS". THEN HE BACKED OFF.

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 USUN NEW YORK 01985

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

LONDON PLEASE PASS AMB YOUNG

IN SHORT, THE EMOTIONAL FACTOR SEEMED TO PREDOMINATE. IN ADDITION, THERE WAS AN IRRITATION WITH OUR METHODS, CONSIDERED COLONIALIST BY SOME AND PATERNALISTIC BY OTHERS.

AN ADDITIONAL FACTOR, SOMETHING NOT MENTIONED, IS THE
INTERNAL PROBLEMS OF SWAPO.

(1) IF IT IS TRUE THAT THE LOSSES IN COMBATANTS, LIGHT
AT KASSINGA, WERE HEAVY IN THE SOUTH THERE IS THE PROBLEM
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PAGE 02 USUN N 01985 02 OF 02 170239Z

OF RECONSTITUTING THE FIGHTING FORCE.

(2) THERE WOULD ALSO BE THE PROBLEM OF THE UNITY OF THE
ORGANIZATION. OUR AMBASSADOR AT LUSAKA HAS NOTED THIS
SEVERAL TIMES. THE CALL FOR UNITY MADE BY NUJOMA IN A
SHORT "MESSAGE TO THE NAMIBIAN PEOPLE" WHICH A RADIO REPORT
ASKED HIM ABOUT ON WEDNESDAY, WOULD ATTEST TO THIS.

BETWEEN THE SHOCK OF KASSINGA AND THE IMMEDIATE PROBLEMS
TO RESOLVE, THE GUIDING SPIRITS OF SWAPO DO NOT SEEM TO ME
TO BE ORIENTED TO A RESUMPTION OF THE TALKS. WE WILL HAVE
TO WAIT UNTIL THE DUST SETTLES.

MOREOVER, THE ANGOLAN SIDE HARDLY SEEMS BOTHERED. THE
MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, REMINDED OF THE REQUEST FOR
AN AUDIENCE WITH PRESIDENT NETO, CONTENTED HIMSELF WITH
REPLYING EVASIVELY. END TEXT.

2. COMMENT: THIS IS THE EMOTIONAL BLAST FROM SWAPO
WHICH WE HAVE BEEN EXPECTING. WE BELIEVE THAT WE WILL
BE HEARING CONSIDERABLY MORE OF THIS "UNTIL THE DUST
SETTLES." END COMMENT. MCHENRY

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Message Attributes

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TAGS: PORG, SF, WA, FR, YO, SWAPO, (NUJOMA, SAM)
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